

AUCTION SALES.

THIS DAY, TUESDAY, 22 MARCH, at 11.30 a.m.

FOR POSITIVE SALE BY AUCTION.

AT THE MART, 109 Pitt-street.

Under instructions from
MESSRS. J. V. LANGHORNE AND COMPANY,
THE HOUSEHOLD MERCHANTS, LTD., NEW YORK,
THE CYLTON TEA SHIPPERS' ASSOCIATION,
THE INDIAN TEA SHIPPERS' ASSOCIATION.

600 PACKAGES

NEW SEASIDE OF CEYLON TEAS,
now being at 8.5. Green and India, from Colombo,
BREKHOFF'S, PEKHOE, ORANGE PEKHOE,
BROKEN PEKHOE, BROKEN ORANGE
PEKHOE.600 PACKAGES FOOCHEW TEAS,
High-grade Peakings,
on B.D. Guitre, from Foocheh.120 PACKAGES INDIAN TEAS,
now being at 8.5. Green and India, 100s.

ALL GRADES, FROM ALL DISTRICTS.

1000 PACKAGES.

A few
On Account of What It May Contain,
With All Health, &c, &c.

4 Chats INDIA, 100s. D. & Co.

AUCTION INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE IMPORTERS.

1000 CHAMBERS, LTD., NEW YORK, KENYAH, I.B.

2000 CIGARETTES, LTD.

5000 DIALELS, LTD.

2000 DIALELS, LTD.

5000 PREMIERED PEAK.

1000 PREMIERED PEAK (selected).

5000 SAFETY MATCHES.

10000 DIALELS PEAKS.

1000 DIALELS, LTD.

SPECIAL CABLES.
FROM THE "HERALD'S" LONDON CORRESPONDENTS.

THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

THE AMERICAN FLEET.

LONDON, March 20.
The United States fleet which assembled at Key West, an island off the coast of Florida, has dispersed.

Two warships have been ordered to Hampton Roads, Virginia, as a first step towards forming a North Atlantic squadron.

AFFAIRS IN ITALY.

THE CRISPI COMMISSION.

LONDON, March 20.
The commission appointed to inquire into the charges against Signor Crispi, the Premier of Italy, has decided that his conduct as a Minister in stopping the inquiry into the Bank of Naples scandals was deserving of censure, but that there is no ground for his impeachment.

THE SOUDAN.

ADVANCE OF THE BRITISH AND EGYPTIAN FORCES.

AN ENGAGEMENT IMMINENT.

LONDON, March 20.
The Dervishes have left El Alia and are moving northwards.

March 21.

After church service on Sunday the British troops at Abbara sang the National Anthem, and the whole force forming the Anglo-Egyptian expedition, under the command of Major-General Sir H. Kitchener, marched to meet the advancing Dervishes. It was a splendid spectacle. The British and Egyptian troops camped at Hudi.

The enemy is within 15 miles of Hudi.

FRENCH INTERESTS IN CHINA AND AFRICA.

EXPLANATION BY M. HANOTAUX.

LONDON, March 21.
Speaking in the French Chamber of Deputies, M. Hanotaux, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, explained that France had no desire to settle in the province of Yenan, in south-western China, or to move southern China.

Referring to the situation in West Africa, M. Hanotaux said that France desired a fair and friendly settlement of the Niger difficulty with Great Britain.

HEALTH OF MR. GLADSTONE.
HIS CONDITION SERIOUS.

LONDON, March 21.
The condition of Mr. Gladstone's health is serious, and much anxiety is felt.

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION.

LONDON, March 21.
The "Times" is referring to the Federal Convention which has just closed its sittings at Melbourne, says that federalism will immensely increase the dignity of national life in Australia, and practically create a new British Power in the Pacific.

THE DOCK AT AUCKLAND.

LONDON, March 21.
Mr. J. Austin Chamberlain, Civil Lord of the Admiralty, states that the Admiralty authorities are considering the matter of the suggested grant for the Calliope dock at Auckland.

THE PLAGUE IN BOMBAY.

LONDON, March 20.
The plague continues to rage in Bombay. The deaths average 216 per day.

PICTURES FOR THE QUEENSLAND ART GALLERY.

LONDON, March 20.
The trustees of the Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, have purchased MacCallum's well-known picture, "Sunday Afternoon Parade," for £300.

March 21.
Mr. William D'Arcy, of Queensland, has presented to the Queensland Art Gallery Gile's picture, "The Charge of the Heavy Brigade."

A RETURNING COLONIST.

LONDON, March 21.
Mr. A. B. Webster, of the firm of Webster and Co., Brisbane, said on his return to Queensland in April.

THE OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE BOAT RACE.

LONDON, March 21.
The betting on the Oxford and Cambridge boat race, which is to be rowed on the 26th instant, is 7 to 4 on the Oxford crew.

MINING IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

LONDON, March 21.
The committee of the Western Australian Chamber of Mines approves of Sir John Forrest's measure of temporary relief for mining companies, and urges a prohibition against all unfair mining entering upon mining leases.

BILLIARDS.

ROBERTS v. WEISS.

LONDON, March 21.
The match arranged between Weise, the Australian billiard champion, and John Roberts, the English champion, is now being played. Weise received £500 start out of £1,000, and the spot stroke and half-time the scores were:—Roberts 479, Weise 1345.

LIVERPOOL MADE FAMOUS

by the industry of cigarette-making. Ogden's Guineas, made in England, and unsurpassed for quality.—Adv.

THE FAR EAST.

THE RUSSIAN AND FRENCH DEMANDS UPON CHINA.

THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

THE AMERICAN FLEET.

LONDON, March 21.
A Reuter's telegram states that China offers to lease Taliwan, and to permit the construction by Russia of a railway to Port Arthur, provided that the fortress remains in the possession of the Chinese.

China agrees to the demands of France in regard to the province of Kwang-si only.

The Pekin correspondent of the "Times" says that the French demands do not include the province of Kwai-chau.

SITUATION IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE.

BULGARIA AND TURKEY.

ACTIVITY OF MACEDONIAN COMMITTEES.

LONDON, March 21.

The activity of the Macedonian committee in Bulgaria has induced Turkey to mass troops on the frontier.

The situation is strained despite the efforts of Prince Ferdinand to repress the agitators.

Serbia and Roumania are jealously watching Bulgaria.

THE FINANCES OF INDIA.

FRESH TAXATION UNNECESSARY.

LONDON, March 21.

A special train, conveying the Governor, the Premier, the Minister for Railways, and a large number of members of Parliament and officials, and private guests left to-day for Manzies, where the official opening of the railway is to take place.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT MENZIES.

MENZIES, Monday.

A fire occurred on Sunday night in the town boundary. It affected the Maori Hotel and hall, built only 12 months ago, and an adjoining shop and timber yard belonging to the estate of W. W. Riley. This block of buildings was completely destroyed.

Advancing the fire was a large crowd of persons, who had gathered to watch the progress of the flames. The following is a list of the places destroyed—Maori Hotel, owned by Walters and Wild, buildings valued at £500, stock £100; Maori Hall, building, £400, and stock £900—total, £1300. The only insurance is £575 on the Maori Hotel and the Maori Hall buildings. The total damage is estimated at £8000.

LEASES RUSHED BY ALLUVIAL DIGGERS.

LONDON, March 21.

The Commissioner of Police has received a telegram from Coote stating that two leases, Frost and Calvert, from East Magnet, reported that the alluvial diggers have rushed the leases and are piling over the caps of the reefs, and will continue to work the ground until the warden arrives to settle the matter. Two hundred men are on the field.

RAILWAY TO MENZIES.

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LEADERSHIP.

QUEENSLAND.

MELBOURNE, Monday.

The weather in Brisbane to-day was somewhat dull, but still dry. Mr. G. H. Smith, the Minister for Mines, says that the tropical depression is travelling south-east towards New Caledonia, and that equally weather is almost certain between Cape Moreton and Cape Capricorn.

Speaking in the French Chamber of Deputies, M. Hanotaux, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, explained that France had no desire to settle in the province of Yenan, in south-western China, or to move southern China.

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SECOND EDITION.

SILVER.

LONDON, March 21.

Bar silver is quoted to-day at 2s 1d per ounce standard.

THE COLLIERY DISASTER.

UNSAFE CONDITION OF THE MINE.

NEWCASTLE, Tuesday Morning.

The exploring parties have just returned from an inspection of the workings, and report that there is no evidence of any signs of an explosion or fire in the mine. Under these circumstances it has been considered advisable to suspend operations for the present. Attention will be devoted to clearing away the debris at the bottom of the shaft, and the search for the bodies of the victims will be resumed at 6 o'clock this morning.

"One of the chief objections, Mr. O'Connor, is still the equal representation of the States in the

constitution, plied accept it. Those who will not accept it must, it appears to me, admit that they are against federation of any effective kind whether or in years to come. Of course, if the Convention is to be held in 1898, it will be necessary to have a convention of the states to be held in 1898, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1899, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1900, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1901, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1902, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1903, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1904, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1905, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1906, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1907, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1908, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1909, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1910, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1911, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1912, and then a convention of the states to be held in 1913, and then a convention of the 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MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

Monday Evening.
Very little business was done on Monday, and the tone generally was gloomy. Nothing transpired in Government securities or stock, and closing quotations of last week were unchanged. In banks New South Wales were higher; others remained as before. Australian Joint Stock Bank deposits continued in request at about the same rate as quoted. National Bank of Australia stocks were quoted at 86, being rather easier. For a period of Mercantile Mutual Insurance a reduction of 10d was accepted, and United also gave way. Gaithers were steady at the previous prices. Castlemaine and West Australian Treasury advanced. Mort's Dock was in request at 86. Silverton had a buyer at an advance of 6d, and Fresh Food and Ice continued to rise, and sold at 20s 3d. Federal Building Society deposits were inquired for.

On the Sydney Stock Exchange the following were the principal movements:—At 1 o'clock: North Shore Gas, 26s 4d; Fresh Food and Ice Company, 20s 4d; United Insurance, 8s 6d. At 4 o'clock: Marshall's Brewery, 3s 2d; Fresh Food and Ice Company, 20s 4d; Lateen M. Mercantile Mutual Insurance, 3s 10d; Marshall's Brewery, 3s 2d. The closing quotations were:—

Company.	Capital paid up.	Share price.	Share price.	Share price.	Share price.
N.S.W. Funded Stock, 1897.	2,423,000	4	110	100	111
Stock, 1898.	300,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1898.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1899.	90,000	4	100	95	100
N.S.W. Funded Stock, 1898.	300,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1899.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1900.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1901.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1902.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1903.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1904.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1905.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1906.	90,000	4	100	95	100
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Divid. due 1910.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1911.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1912.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1913.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1914.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1915.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1916.	90,000	4	100	95	100
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Divid. due 1919.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1920.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1921.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1922.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1923.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1924.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1925.	90,000	4	100	95	100
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Divid. due 1977.	90,000	4	100	95	100
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Divid. due 1983.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1984.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1985.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1986.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1987.	90,000	4	100	95	100
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Divid. due 1989.	90,000	4	100	95	100
Divid. due 1990.	90,000	4	100	95	100
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Divid. due 1993.	90,000	4			

